

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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- 1 1. A method for synchronizing an event on a plurality of client apparatuses,
2 comprising the steps of:
3 (a) connecting a plurality of client apparatuses via a network;
4 (b) embedding an application program on a site on the network;
5 (c) requesting information from a server on the network utilizing the application
6 program, wherein the information relates to an event to be played back
7 simultaneously on the client apparatuses; and
8 (d) receiving a script for displaying the information.
 - 1 2. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the application program is further
2 adapted to send a request to retrieve commands from the server for use with a
3 playback device of one of the client apparatuses.
 - 1 3. A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the playback device includes a
2 digital video disc (DVD) player.
 - 1 4. A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the commands are adapted to
2 playback the event on the playback device simultaneous with the playback of
3 the event on the remaining client apparatuses.
 - 1 5. A method as recited in claim 2, wherein the command includes a start time
2 when the playback of the event is to begin on each of the client apparatuses.
 - 1 6. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein application program is a JAVA
2 applet and the script is JavaScript.
 - 1 7. A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium for
2 synchronizing an event on a plurality of client apparatuses, comprising:

- 3 (a) a code segment for connecting a plurality of client apparatuses via a network;
4 (b) a code segment for embedding an application program on a site on the
5 network;
6 (c) a code segment for requesting information from a server on the network
7 utilizing the application program, wherein the information relates to an event
8 to be played back simultaneously on the client apparatuses; and
9 (d) a code segment for receiving a script for displaying the information.
- 1 8. A computer program as recited in claim 7, wherein the application program
2 is further adapted to send a request to retrieve commands from the server for
3 use with a playback device of one of the client apparatuses.
- 1 9. A computer program as recited in claim 8, wherein the playback device
2 includes a digital video disc (DVD) player.
- 1 10. A computer program as recited in claim 8, wherein the commands are
2 adapted to playback the event on the playback device simultaneous with the
3 playback of the event on the remaining client apparatuses.
- 1 11. A computer program as recited in claim 8, wherein the command includes a
2 start time when the playback of the event is to begin on each of the client
3 apparatuses.
- 1 12. A computer program as recited in claim 7, wherein application program is a
2 JAVA applet and the script is JAVAscript.
- 1 13. A system for synchronizing an event on a plurality of client apparatuses,
2 comprising:
3 (a) logic for connecting a plurality of client apparatuses via a network;
4 (b) logic for embedding an application program on a site on the network;

- 5 (c) logic for requesting information from a server on the network utilizing the
6 application program, wherein the information relates to an event to be played
7 back simultaneously on the client apparatuses; and
8 (d) logic for receiving a script for displaying the information.
- 1 14. A system as recited in claim 13, wherein the application program is further
2 adapted to send a request to retrieve commands from the server for use with a
3 playback device of one of the client apparatuses.
- 1 15. A system as recited in claim 14, wherein the playback device includes a
2 digital video disc (DVD) player.
- 1 16. A system as recited in claim 14, wherein the commands are adapted to
2 playback the event on the playback device simultaneous with the playback of
3 the event on the remaining client apparatuses.
- 1 17. A system as recited in claim 14, wherein the command includes a start time
2 when the playback of the event is to begin on each of the client apparatuses.
- 1 (a) 18. A system as recited in claim 13, wherein application program is a
2 JAVA applet and the script is JAVAscript.

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